Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 04515 131150Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-07 CIAE-00 NEA-10 SP-02 /052 W

-----131206Z 047378 /43

R 131118Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7830 AMEMBASSY ATHENS

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 4515

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: ECEVIT AND THE AEGEAN

REF: STATE 135802

1. I DO NOT REPEAT NOT COMPLETELY AGREE WITH THE IMPLICATION OF WHAT IS SAID IN PARA 6 REFTEL CONCERNING ECEVIT AND THE AEGEAN SITUATION. AS I INDICATED TO THE SECRETARY IN TEHRAN. MY FEELING IS THAT ECEVIT, WITH OR WITHOUT A COALITION PARTNER, WILL TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT MORE AGGRESSIVE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH ON AEGEAN ISSUES THAN WOULD DEMIREL. IN THE RECENT PAST, HIS PARTY'S POSITION, PARTICULARLY WHEN VOICED BY HASAN ISIK (WHO HAS BEEN ACTING AS SOMEWHAT OF A SHADOW FOREIGN MINISTER) HAS BEEN MORE STRIDENT AND ASSERTIVE THAN DEMIREL'S. I CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT IF ECEVIT BECOMES PRIME MINISTER THIS WILL REPRESENT FOR US BOTH GREATER OPPORTUNITIES AND GREATER RISKS THAN WOULD ANOTHER DEMIREL PRIME MINISTERSHIP. WITHIN THAT GENERALITY, HOWEVER, I THINK ECEVIT IS LIKELY TO BE SOMEWHAT BETTER TO DEAL WITH ON CYPRUS (ALTHOUGH BY NO MEANS EASY) THAN DEMIREL HAS BEEN, AND SOMEWHAT WORSE ON AEGEAN MATTERS. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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To: STATE ATHENS

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